

Johnny M Mine Important Documents from NRC and NMED Files

March 10, 2011

Documents

ML101060074

Hecla letter to NRC dated May 29, 1992

This letter describes testing and excavation of soil from the west side of the fence. (b) (6) Property) This area was suggested for cleanup by NRC. This area is west of one the former surface impoundment.(the most northerly unit) There was about 75 cubic yards removed from this area. On this area it appears that excavation has occurred. The area is topographically lower. The area also has gray sandy soil which may be the uranium mill tailings. This area has elevated readings on the Ludlum. Soil samples were collected at depth. The results should be back in our office next week. This area was cleaned up to 1.2 pCi/g and 0.8 pCi/g radium 226.

ML101060076

Hecla letter to NRC dated March 3, 1992

This letter addresses the affect of mill tailing on the water quality of the Dakota Sandstone and the Westwater Aquifer.

“ estimating groundwater currently infiltrating the old workings approximately 450 years to travel one mile northeast of the mine , where there are no identified consumptive use of the Westwater Canyon Aquifer.”

The (b) (6) well is the converted north vent hole. This well is 1500 feet deep and is presently being used to irrigate crops and for watering livestock. This well is on the former Johnny M Mine site.

The (b) (6) well is located 0.3 miles southwest of the former Johnny M Mine. It is 715 feet deep and produces water from the Dakota Sandstone. This well is used for human consumption. It is also used to water 10 head of cattle and 20 horses. The NMED sampled this well and recommended that it no longer be used for drinking until a filtration system is installed. The water analysis indicates that the MCL for gross alpha and Radium 226 and 228 have been exceeded.

ML101060077

Hecla letter to NRC dated January 13, 1992

Page 2 paragraph 2 Concern #3

“A sample collected outside the west fence in the pasture (JMM10) had a reading of 240+or – 20 BQ/KG(6.4 +or – 0.54 pCi/g). The background established by Hecla for the south area is 1.1 + or – 0.1 pCi/g for Radium -226.”

“Using the 1.1 pCi/g radium background value added to EPA’s radium cleanup criteria of 5 pCi/g would produce a minimum standard cleanup for radium at 6.1 pCi/g . Therefore a radium result of 6.4 pCi/g indicates that additional cleanup may be necessary west of the fence. Hecla must reexamine their findings from this area to determine if further cleanup is necessary.”

If a cleanup standard of 6.4 pCi/l was utilized on the small area on the west side of the west fence then why not apply this standard to the rest of the property.

ML101060309

NRC letter to Docket File No.40-8914 dated October 10, 1990

“Reclamation activities for the Johnny M site involve excavation and removal of tailings from two locations within the project area. These locations are designated as the “north area “ and the “south area” and are illustrated as Figure 3 of the licensee’s submittal. Tailings will be collected by use of heavy equipment and then trucked nine miles to Quivira Mining Company’s tailing impoundment.” There was to be 36” of tailings removed over a 6 acre area around the south area. The north area was to have 36” of tailings removed from a 2 acre area. The cleanup criteria is 6.4 pCi/l of Ra-226.

ML101060624

NMEID Memorandum from Sam Simpson to Felix Miera –Uranium Licensing Section dated January 3, 1984

This memo addresses reclamation activities by Ranchers Exploration and Development Corporation, as relates to the EID licensed tailing backfill operations at the Johnny M Mine project.